

Movie Discussion Questions

Directions to Students: Students will watch a number of films about famous explorers, outdoor and/or extreme sports during the course. Students should use these general questions to take notes during the film. After watching the film, students will be required to participate in a discussion about one of the issues or blog about the issue on our class blog. Because of the length of some films, we will not be able to watch all of a particular film. In such cases, student may gain credit by completing the in-class exercise on the film and then extend their knowledge by conducting further research into one of the topics discussed in the film and presenting a short thesis paper.

Approved Movie List for Extended Research

- A Day In The Life: 5 Women Who Rock Climb (2005)
- Alaska Hunting Adventure: 700 Miles Alone by Backpack and Raft (2004)
- Everest: Beyond the Limit (2006)
- Long Way Around (2005)
- Into the Tsang Po Gorge (2002)
- Step Into Liquid (2003)
- Touching the Void (2003)
- TREK - A Journey on the Appalachian Trail (2004)
- Walking the West (2002)

Movie Discussion Questions:

Note that these are general questions and that all questions may not apply to each movie. Students are to use these questions as guidelines for taking notes during a film. Students should use their notes during our discussions and be able to cite specific examples from the movie.

1. What was the goal of the expedition? Take note of where they were going, what they were going to do, and what motivated them to go on this expedition.
2. What climate conditions did they experience? Take note of physical geography, general climate and any severe weather conditions that the group had to endure.
3. What gear did they take along with them? You should take note of clothing, food, navigation, and safety equipment.
4. Did they have to leave any equipment behind at some point in the expedition? Take note of what circumstances lead to this loss of equipment and if the loss affected the expeditions goal.
5. What cultures (and people) did the expedition meet? Take note of unusual items, foods, religious practices, and language (e.g. idiom) that the expedition members experienced.
6. Did the expeditions' interactions with another culture help or hinder the expedition? Take note of any time an expedition member was given advice and didn't heed their warning.
7. What significance did this expedition have on the sport in the short term, and the long term?

Grading Rubric:

0 Points: Shows No Knowledge of the Issues in the Film. Has not Answered Any of the Questions Appropriately.	1 Point: Shows Little Knowledge of the Issues in the Film. Successfully Answered 1-2 of the Questions.	2 Points: Shows Some Knowledge of the Issues in the Film. Successfully Answered 3-4 of the Questions.	3 Points: Shows Adequate Knowledge of the Issues in the Film. Successfully Answered 5 of the Questions. Can cite general examples.	4 Points: Shows Extended Knowledge of the Issues in the Film. Successfully Answer 6 of the Questions. Can cite general examples.	5 Points: Has Answered All of the Questions; and Can Cite Specific Examples from the Film.
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